



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

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**Statement by State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster
on arming school administrators, teachers, and staff members**

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster issued the following statement on Rep. Frank Lasee's (R-Bellevue) proposal that would arm school faculty and staff members.

"While it is not my normal practice to comment on proposed legislation before it has been formally introduced as a bill, I am compelled to do so in the case of Representative Lasee's proposal to arm school faculty and staff.

"It is simply wrong to legislate concealed weapons into our schools. Our students are safest when the only guns in their schools are carried by law enforcement professionals: our local partners. Wisconsin communities are working to keep our students and educators safe and are involved in local, state, and national conversations about school safety. Wisconsin communities also are healing from recent school violence and engaging students and law enforcement partners in real discussions and planning about safety at school.

"Every effort must be made to protect our children. That includes keeping guns and other weapons out of our schools. We also must continue our work to provide schools with anti-violence best practices and with proven programs that curb bullying and other negative behaviors. Ultimately, we must engage all students in their learning and school communities."

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